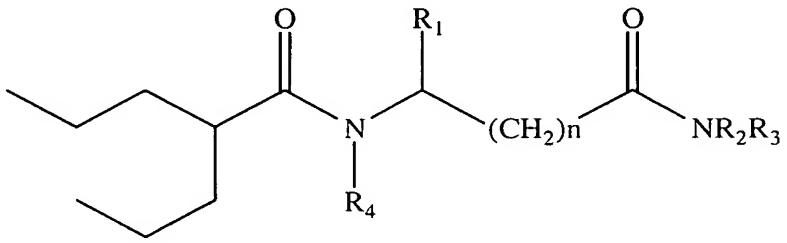
Amendments to the Claims

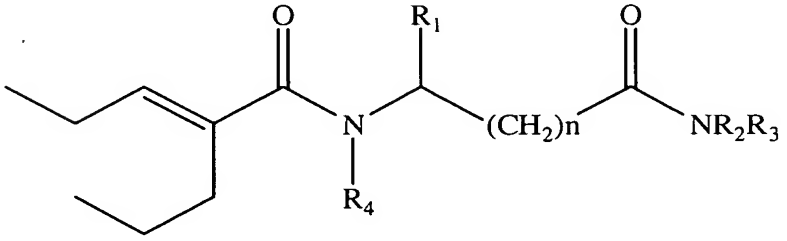
Please cancel claims 11-46 and 48-92 without disclaimer or prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in this or a related application.

Pleases amend claims 1, 47 and 93-96 and add new claims 97-101 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121, as set forth in the Federal Register on June 30, 2003 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating a subject suffering from pain comprising periodically administering to the subject a therapeutically effective dose of a compound having the following structure:



or



wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group, an aralkyl group, or an aryl group, and n is an integer which is greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 3; wherein the therapeutically effective dose is 1,000 to 6,000 mg; so as to thereby treat the subject's pain.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of R_1, R_2, R_3 or R_4 is a linear chain C_1-C_6 alkyl group.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of R_1, R_2, R_3 or R_4 is a branched chain C_1-C_6 alkyl group.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of R_1, R_2, R_3 or R_4 is a benzyl, alkylbenzyl, hydroxybenzyl, alkoxycarbonylbenzyl, aryloxycarbonylbenzyl, carboxybenzyl, nitrobenzyl, cyanobenzyl, or halobenzyl group.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of R_1, R_2, R_3 or R_4 is a phenyl, naphthyl, anthracenyl, pyridinyl, indolyl, furanyl, alkylphenyl, hydroxyphenyl, alkoxycarbonylphenyl, aryloxycarbonylphenyl, nitrophenyl, cyanophenyl, halophenyl group, mercaptophenyl, or aminophenyl group.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pain is acute pain.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pain is chronic pain.

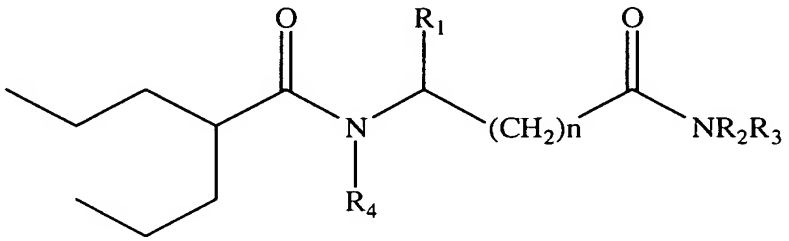
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pain is somatogenic pain.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the somatogenic pain is neuropathic pain.

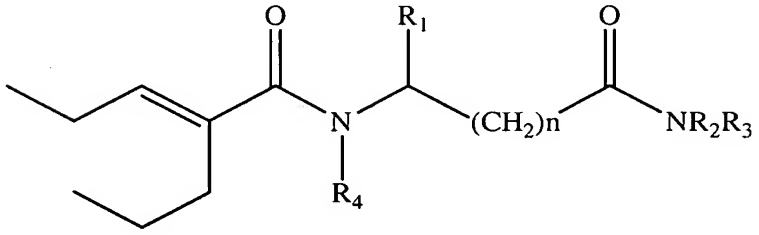
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human being.

Claims 11-46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently amended) A method of ~~preventing~~ pain prophylaxis in a subject predisposed to suffering from pain comprising periodically administering to the subject a prophylactically effective dose of a compound having the following structure:



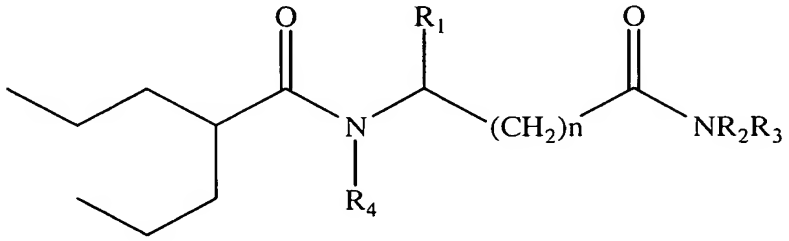
or



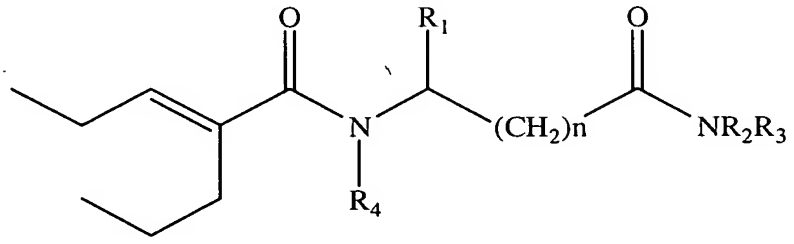
wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group, an aralkyl group, or an aryl group, and n is an integer which is greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 3; wherein the prophylactically effective dose is 1,000 to 6,000 mg; and wherein the pain is neuropathic pain, a migraine or a headache disorder; so as to thereby ~~prevent~~ effect pain prophylaxis in the subject.

Claims 48-92. (Canceled)

93. (Currently amended) A method of treating a subject suffering from pain comprising periodically administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective dose a compound having the following structure:

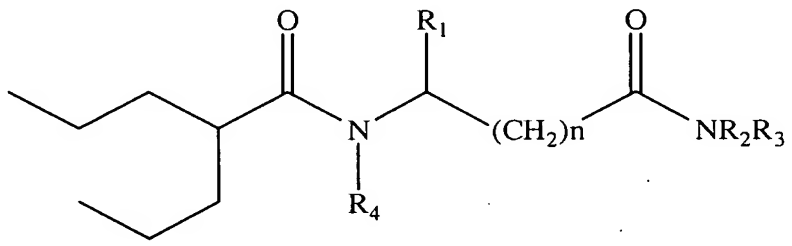


or

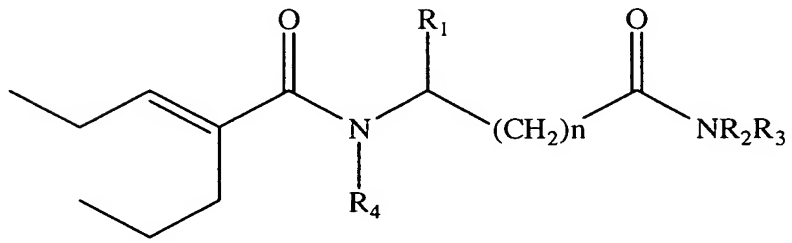


wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group, an aralkyl group, or an aryl group, and n is an integer which is greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; wherein the therapeutically effective dose is 1,000 to 6,000 mg; and wherein the pain is neuropathic pain, a migraine or a headache disorder; so as to thereby treat the subject's pain.

94. (Currently amended) A method of ~~preventing~~ pain prophylaxis in a subject predisposed to suffering from pain comprising periodically administering to the subject a composition comprising a prophylactically effective dose of a compound having the following structure:

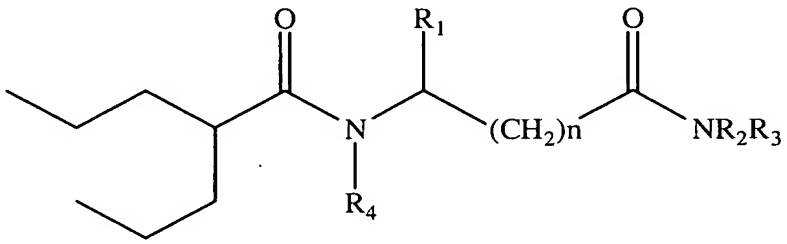


or

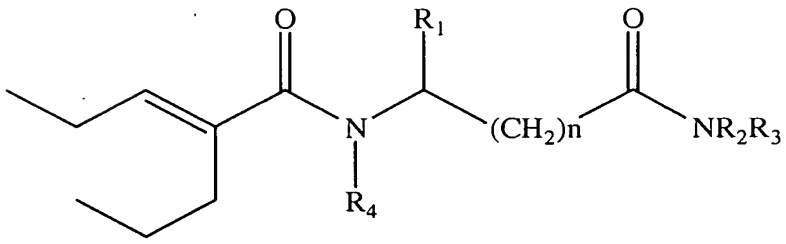


wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group, an aralkyl group, or an aryl group, and n is an integer which is greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; wherein the therapeutically effective dose is 1,000 to 6,000 mg; and wherein the pain is neuropathic pain, a migraine or a headache disorder; so as to thereby ~~prevent~~ effect pain prophylaxis in the subject.

95. (Currently amended) A method of treating a subject suffering from a headache disorder comprising periodically administering to the subject a therapeutically effective dose of a compound having the following structure:

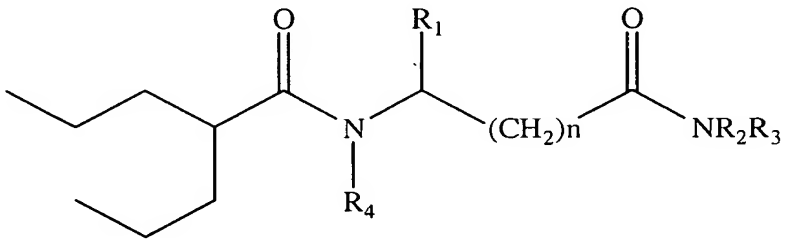


or

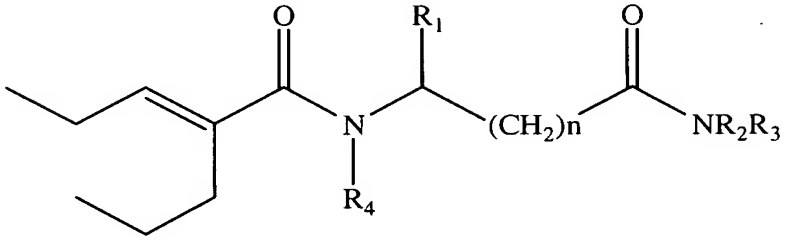


wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group, an aralkyl group, or an aryl group, and n is an integer which is greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 3; wherein the therapeutically effective dose is 1,000 to 6,000 mg; so as to thereby treat the headache disorder.

96. (Currently amended) A method of preventing a headache disorder in a subject predisposed to suffering from a headache disorder comprising periodically administering to the subject a prophylactically effective dose of a compound having the following structure:



or



wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently the same or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group, an aralkyl group, or an aryl group, and n is an integer which is greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 3; wherein the prophylatically effective dose is 1,000 to 6,000 mg; so as to thereby prevent the headache disorder in the subject.

97. (New) The method of claim 95, wherein the headache disorder is a migraine, cluster headache, tension-type headache, or miscellaneous-type headache.

98. (New) The method of claim 97, wherein the headache disorder is a cluster headache, tension-type headache, or miscellaneous-type headache.

99. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the headache disorder is a migraine, cluster headache, tension-type headache, or miscellaneous-type headache.

100. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the somatogenic pain is cancer pain, postoperative pain, low back pain, complex regional pain syndrome, phantom pain, HIV pain, osteoarthritis pain or rheumatoid arthritis pain.

101. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the neuropathic pain is diabetic peripheral neuropathy, postherpetic neuralgia, or trigeminal neuralgia.